

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration is requested.

Claim 1-22 are pending. Claims 10-22 have been withdrawn from consideration. While claim 21 has been withdrawn by the Examiner from consideration, the applicants believe the claimed subject matter reads on the elected subject matter and should be under active consideration. Clarification of the status of claim 21 is requested.

The claims have been revised to emphasize that the chromatography column comprises an enclosure, a tank and a pump.

Entry of the present Amendment and rejoinder and allowance of the withdrawn method claims with the product claims are requested.

The claims as amended above define structural features of the disclosed invention. Support for the amendments may be found throughout the specification. No new matter has been added.

The Section 102 and Section 103 rejections of claims 1-3 over Alaska (U.S. Patent No. 5,667,676), are believed to be obviated by the above amendments. The Section 103 rejection of claims 1-9 over Alaska (U.S. Patent No. 5,667,676), Hanmer (U.S. Patent No. 5,788,127) and Marmon (U.S. Patent No. 4,437,487), is believed to be obviated by the above amendments.

The applicants submit that Alaska fails to disclose a pump and a tank comprising a dry resin, as presently claimed, for loading the column (10) with this dry resin. Moreover, the applicants submit that according to the invention the particles of the dry resin contained in the tank have a size of at least 10 000 times smaller than the first port

VIDALINC  
Appl. No. 10/590,362  
Atny. Ref.: 960-50  
Amendment After Final Rejection  
August 19, 2009

of the enclosure, which is not disclosed in Alaska. The claims are submitted to be patentable over Alaska and entry of the Amendment and withdrawal of the rejections based on Alaska are requested.

The deficiencies of Alaska are not cured by the secondary references. Specifically, Hanmer and Marmon are understood to relate to valves and do not teach or suggest the above-noted features relative to the pump, the tank and the dry resin. Withdrawal of the Section 103 rejection based on the cited combination of art is requested.

The claims are submitted to be in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is requested. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned, preferably by telephone, in the event anything further is required.

Respectfully submitted,

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